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136th
SEASON

SYMPHONY HALL

VERDI'S REQUIEM

SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 1951

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136TH SEASON

1950 - 1951

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One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Season

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Concert 910

Flos Campi

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Suite for Solo Viola, Small Orchestra and Small Chorus

Manzoni Requiem

VERDI

Under the Auspices of

The General Theological Library Association

Symphony Hall, Boston
SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 1951
at 8:30

SOLOISTS

Alice Farnsworth, *Soprano*

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Chickering Pianos used exclusively by the Handel and Haydn Society

FLOS CAMPI

by

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Ralph Vaughan Williams is one of the foremost and most highly honored of the older generation of living English composers. He has composed operas, ballets, and masques for the stage; four symphonies, several works for instrumental or vocal solo with orchestra; many for chorus and orchestra, and for chorus unaccompanied; and much significant chamber music. He shows a decided fondness for unusual combinations of voices and instruments; such as, the song-cycle ON WENLOCK EDGE for tenor, string quartet, and piano.

FLOS CAMPI (Flower of the Field), composed in 1925, is scored for solo viola, mixed chorus, and small orchestra. The chorus is used instrumentally: that is to say, it enunciates no text, but vocalizes on various vowel sounds and humming effects. The six short divisions are noted in the score by quotations from the SONG OF SOLOMON (in the score these quotations appear in both Latin and English).

Ears attuned only to the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth century music will find the setting ultra-modern. Actually the composer has consciously sought an archaic idiom, possibly a Hebrew tradition. But many of his harmonic and rhythmic patterns closely resemble some of the early Celtic music which has only recently been deciphered—music, some of which proves that much of our modern "impressionism" is no sophisticated discovery, but rather a naive rediscovery. Poets will find no incongruity in juxtaposing Celtic folk-music and Hebrew poetry to evoke moods which are universal and fundamental. Regionalists may console themselves with the theory that perhaps the Celts were the Lost Ten Tribes!

— Dr. Philip Greeley Clapp

FLOS CAMPI

by

R. Vaughan Williams

I

'Sicut Lilium inter spinas, sic amica mea inter filias. . . . Fulcite me floribus, stipate me malis, quia amore langueo.'

As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. . . . Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples; for I am sick of love.

II

'Jam enim hiems transiit; imber abiit, et recessit; Flores apparuerunt in terra nostra, Tempus putationis advenit Vox turturis audita est in terra nostra.'

For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.

III

'Quaesivi quem diligit anima mea; quaesivi illum, et non inveni.' . . . "Adjuro vos, filiae Jerusalem, si inveneritis dilectum meum, ut nuntietis ei quia amore langueo." . . . 'Quo abiit dilectus tuus, O pu'cherrima mulierium? Quo declinavit dilectus tuus? et quaeremus eum tecum.' "

I sought him whom my soul loveth, but I found him not. . . . 'I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if ye find my beloved, that ye tell him that I am sick of love.' . . . 'Whither is thy beloved gone, O thou fairest among women? Whither is thy beloved turned aside? that we may seek him with thee.'

IV

'En lectulum Salomonis sexaginta fortes ambiunt, . . . omnes tenentes gladios, et ad bella doctissimi.'

Behold his bed (palanquin), which is Solomon's, three score valiant men are about it. . . . They all hold swords, being expert in war.

V

'Revertere, revertere Sulamitis! Revertere, revertere ut intueamur te. . . . Quam pulchri sunt gressus tui in calceamentis, filia principis.'

Return, return, O Shulamite, Return, return, that we may look upon thee. . . . How beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O Prince's daughter.

VI

'Pone me ut signaculum super cor tuum.'

Set me as a seal upon thine heart.

GIUSEPPE VERDI

Born in Busseto, October 9, 1814 — Died in Milan, January 27, 1901

Requiem Mass

In honor of Alessandro Manzoni, who died May 22, 1873. Composed in 1873-4. Produced at Saint Mark's Church, Milan, May 22, 1874. First performance by the Handel and Haydn Society, and first performance in Boston, May 5, 1878; present performance the seventeenth.

I

REQUIEM and KYRIE

QUARTET AND CHORUS

REQUIEM aeternam dona eis, Domine; et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem. Exaudi orationem meam: ad te omnis caro veniet.

KYRIE, eleison: Christe, eleison.

REST eternal give them, Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Unto Thee, O God, shall hymns be sung in Zion, and unto Thee shall prayer go up in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer: unto Thee shall all flesh come.

LORD, have mercy: Christ have mercy.

II

DIES IRAE

Hymn by Saint Thomas of Celano, about 1230
English version by Paul F. Spain,

CHORUS

DIES irae, dies illa!
Solvet saeclum in favilla!
Teste David cum Sibylla.

DAY of wrath, O that dread Day!
Time to ashes burned away!
Pagan seers with David say.

Quantus tremor est futurus,
Quando Judex est venturus,
Cuncta stricte discussurus.

Quaking fear man's bosom rends,
When his final Judge descends.
What dread searching now impends!

BASS SOLO AND CHORUS

Tuba mirum spargens sonum
Per sepulchra regionum
Coget omnes ante thronum.

Blaring trumpet's vibrant tone
Through the tombs of ages blown
Citing all before the Throne.

Mors stupebit et natura;
Cum resurget creatura,
Judicanti responsura.

Death undone while Nature quakes;
From the grave each man awakes,
To his Judge his answer makes.

ALTO SOLO AND CHORUS

Liber scriptus proferetur
In quo totum continetur
Unde mundus judicetur.

Written in the Book of Doom
Whilst he lay within the tomb,
Measured deeds and sentence loom.

Judex ergo cum sedebit
Quidquid latet apparebit
Nil inultum remanebit.

When the Judge His seat attains,
And each hidden act arraigns,
Nothing unavenged remains.

TRIO

Quid sum miser tunc dicturus,
Quem patronum rogaturus,
Cum vix justus sit securus?

What shall I, poor wretch, then plead?
Who for me will intercede,
When the just will mercy need?

QUARTET AND CHORUS

Rex tremendae majestatis,
Qui salvandos salvas gratis,
Salva me, fons pietatis.

Awful, All Majestic King,
Who didst free salvation bring,
Cleanse me in that saving spring.

SOPRANO AND ALTO DUET

Recordare, Jesu pie,
Quod sum causa tuae viae;
Ne me perdas illa die.

Jesus sweet, recall, I pray,
'Twas for me Thou walked Thy way;
Spurn me not that fatal Day.

Quaerens me, sedisti lassus:
Redemisti, crucem passus:
Tantus labor non sit cassus.

Thou once sought my soul to gain
On Thy heavy Cross of pain.
Shall such anguish be in vain?

Juste Judex ultionis,
Donum fac remissionis
Ante diem rationis.

Judge of vengeance, stern and just,
Grant Thy pardoning grace I trust,
Ere that Day recalls my dust.

TENOR SOLO

Ingemisco tamquam reus:
Culpa rubet vultus meus:
Supplicanti parce, Deus.

Groans and wails my guilt declare;
Scarlet shame my features wear.
Wilt Thou, Lord, Thy suppliant spare?

Qui Mariam absolvisti,
Et latronem exaudisti,
Mihi quoque spem dedisti.

Thou didst sinful Mary save,
And the dying thief forgave;
Now to me a hope vouchsafe.

Preces meae non sunt dignae;
Sed tu bonus fac benigne:
Ne perenni cremer igne.

Worthless though my prayers, I yearn
That Thy mercy will not spurn
Lest my soul forever burn.

Inter oves locum praesta,
Et ab haedis me sequestra,
Statuens in parte dextra.

Where Thy sheep are, lead my way;
Cast me not with goats astray;
Near Thy Right Hand bid me stay.

BASS SOLO

Confutatis maledictis,
Flammis acribus addictis,
Voca me cum benedictis.

Eer the damned their fate shall know,
Doomed to flames and endless woe,
Call me where Thy sainted go.

Oro supplex et acclinis;
Cor contritum quasi cinis:
Gere curam mei finis.

Lowly, penitent, I bend;
Contrite heart my poor amend.
Have compassion o'er my end.

QUARTET AND CHORUS

Lachrymosa dies illa!
Qua resurget ex favilla.
Judicandus homo reus:
Huic ergo parce, Deus!

Day of weeping, that dread Day!
Man will rise from ashes gray.
Lest Thy justice wield the rod
Spare, in mercy, then, O God!

Pie Jesu, Domine,
Dona eis requiem.
Amen.

Gentle Jesus, Saviour Blest,
Grant to them eternal rest.
Amen.

III

DOMINE JESU: OFFERTORY:

QUARTET

DOMINE JESU CHRISTE, Rex Gloriae, libera animas omnium fidelium defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu: libera eas de ore leonis: ne absorbeat eas

LORD JESUS CHRIST, King of Glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pangs of hell and from the deep abyss: save them from the lion's mouth:

Tartarus: ne cadant in obscurum. Sed signifer Sanctus Michael repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam. Quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.

let not the pit swallow them: may they fall not into darkness. But let Thy standard-bearer, the holy Michael, bring them into Thy holy light. As Thou didst promise of old unto Abraham and his seed.

HOSTIAS et preces tibi, Domine, laudis offerimus: tu suscipe pro animabus illis quarum hodie memoriam facimus: fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam. Quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini ejus.

SACRIFICE and prayer bring we to Thee, O Lord, with praises: accept them for the souls of those whose memory we keep this day: let them pass, O Lord, from death unto life. As Thou didst promise of old unto Abraham and his seed.

IV

SANCTUS

DOUBLE CHORUS

SANCTUS, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

HOLY, Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and Earth are full of Thy glory. Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

INTERMISSION

V

AGNUS DEI

SOPRANO AND ALTO DUET AND CHORUS

AGNUS DEI, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

LAMB OF GOD, that takest away the sins of the world, grant them unending rest.

VI

LUX AETERNA

TRIO

LUX aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.

LET Thy light everlasting shine on them, O Lord, as on Thy saints forever; for Thou art merciful.

REQUIEM aeternam dona eis, Domine; et lux perpetua luceat eis.

REST eternal give them, Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them.

VII

LIBERA ME

SOPRANO SOLO AND CHORUS

LIBERA me, Domine, de morte aeterna, in die illa tremenda, quando coeli movendi sunt et terra; dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.

DELIVER me, Lord, from eternal death, on that dread day, when Heaven and Earth shall be moved; when Thou shalt come to judge the world with fire.

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo, dum discussio venerit atque ventura ira.

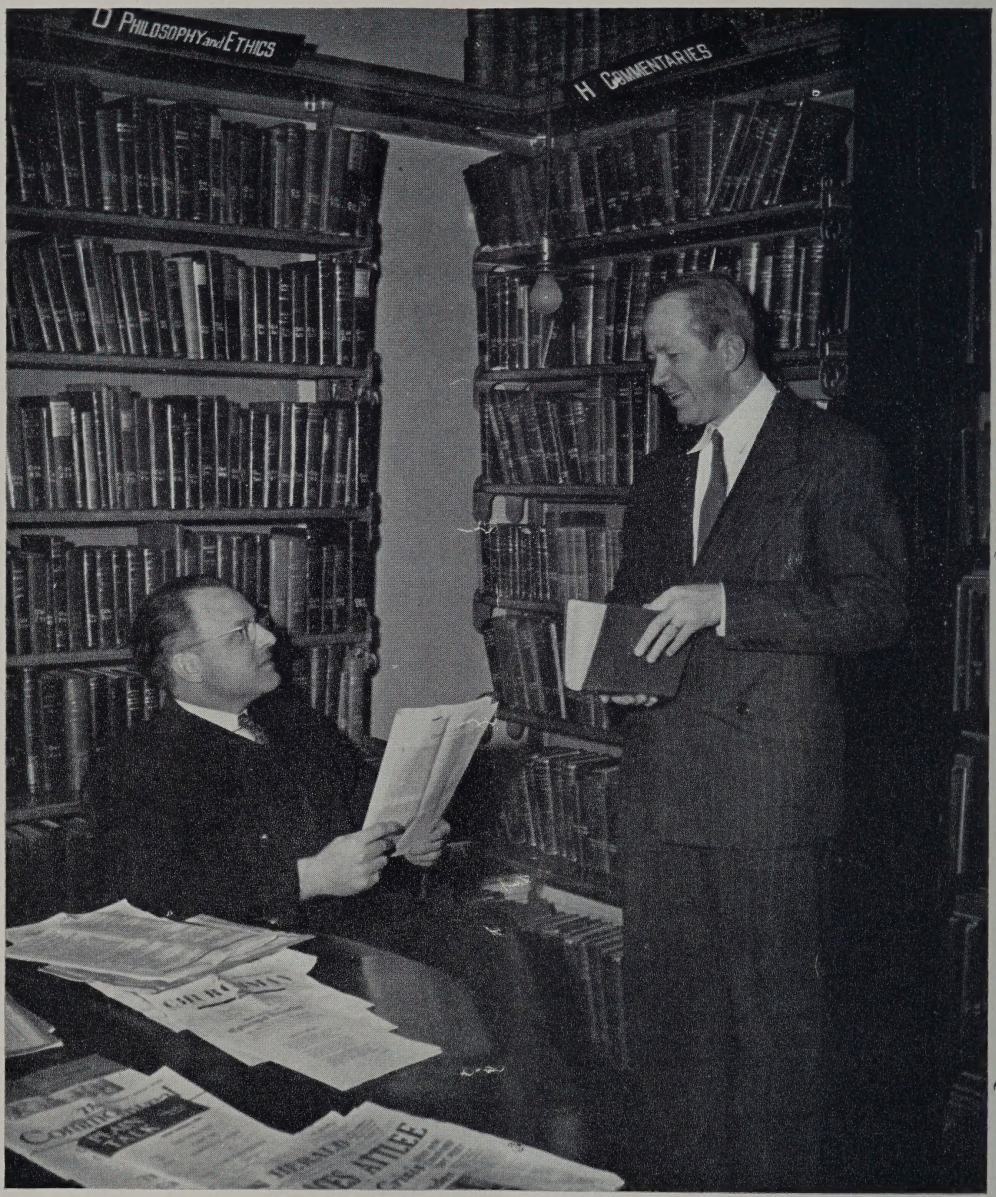
Seized am I with trembling; and I fear the trial and the wrath to come.

Dies irae, dies illa, calamitatis et miseriae; dies magna et amara valde.

On that day, day of wrath, of trouble and of misery; day great and bitter indeed.

REQUIEM aeternam dona eis, Domine; et lux perpetua luceat eis.

REST eternal give them, Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them.



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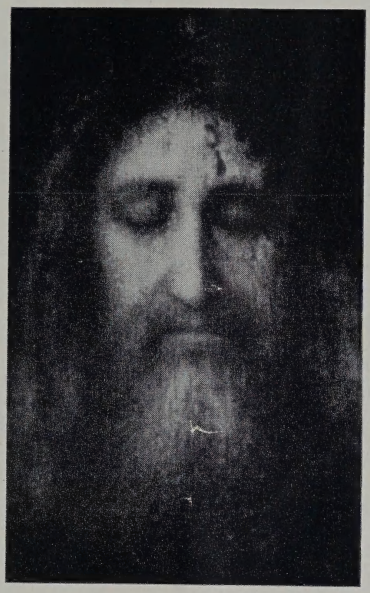

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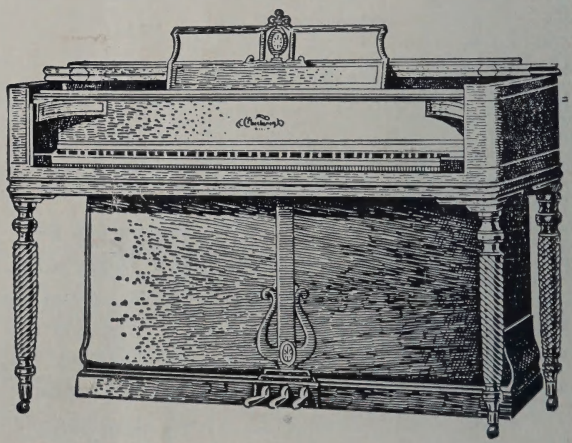

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